

Remarks/Arguments

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 7, 9, 10, 18, and 22 were rejected as "indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as his invention." However, Applicant believes these rejections were properly addressed by the amendment dated August 5, 2003, which has been entered by the Examiner.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 7

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,125,391 to Meltzer et al. ("Meltzer") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,101,541 to Ellesson et al. ("Ellesson"), and further in view of Official Notice. As the PTO recognizes in MPEP § 2142, the Examiner bears the initial burden of supporting any prima facie case of obviousness. Applicant traverses this rejection on the grounds that these references are defective in establishing a prima facie case of obviousness with respect to claim 7.

When evaluating a claim for determining obviousness, all limitations of the claim must be evaluated. Examiner states that Meltzer fails to teach a distributed directory and relies on Ellesson at col. 5, line 52 through col. 6, line 3 to supply this element. The cited portion of Ellesson recites, in part, "[a] directory server 103 for polling client nodes 105, 107, and 109 to exchange updated data related to volatile data items stored in directory database 309 and/or the client nodes."

However, the solution disclosed by Ellesson, does not involve a distributed directory. While Ellesson teaches a directory server, the directory server "acts as a central administration point for network control," (col. 2, lines 6-7) (emphasis added). For example, Ellesson states, "Fig. 1 illustrates a system overview of a network 10 which employs a central administrative directory server for managing the service quality of the network environment, in accordance with the present invention," (col. 4, lines 30-33) (emphasis added). Clearly, Ellesson teaches a centralized directory.

In contrast, claim 7, as amended, recites in part, "transforming the XML data representing the first event to a first predetermined format by the transformation processor, the first predetermined format being responsive to a distributed directory, wherein a first portion and a second portion of the distributed directory are located in a first partition and a second partition, respectively." Thus, in claim 7, the word "distributed" modifies the word "directory" such that the directory itself is distributed.

Therefore, since Ellesson teaches a centralized directory, and Applicant claims "a first portion and a second portion of the distributed directory [] located in a first partition and a second partition, respectively," Meltzer and Ellesson do not teach each and every limitation of claim 7. For this reason, at least, claim 7 should be allowable.

Furthermore, neither Meltzer nor Ellesson teach or suggest the desirability of the combination of claim 7. Neither patent provides any incentive or motivation supporting the desirability of their combination. Even where references can be combined to produce the claimed invention (which is not the case here), the MPEP in §2143.01 requires a showing of some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to combine the references to establish prima facie obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103. Meltzer limits its teaching to the publishing of documents while Ellesson is directed towards the unrelated field of non transformative synchronization of centralized databases with client nodes. Hence, there is no motivating force that would compel one skilled in the art to combine Meltzer with Ellesson. For this reason, at least, claim 7 should be allowable.

Claims 9, 10, 11, and 13 depend from and further limit claim 7 and should be allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 15

Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being anticipated by Meltzer in view of Ellesson. As stated before, Examiner bears the initial burden of supporting any prima facie case of obviousness. Applicant submits that the cited references are defective in establishing a prima facie case of obviousness with respect to claim 15.

Examiner states that Meltzer fails to teach a distributed directory and relies on Ellesson at col. 5, line 52 through col. 6, line 3 to supply this element. The cited portion

of Ellesson recites, in part, “[a] directory server 103 for polling client nodes 105, 107, and 109 to exchange updated data related to volatile data items stored in directory database 309 and/or the client nodes.”

However, the solution disclosed by Ellesson, does not involve a distributed directory. While Ellesson teaches a directory server, the directory server “acts as a central administration point for network control,” (col. 2, lines 6-7) (emphasis added). For example, Ellesson states, “Fig. 1 illustrates a system overview of a network 10 which employs a central administrative directory server for managing the service quality of the network environment, in accordance with the present invention,” (col. 4, lines 30-33) (emphasis added). Clearly, Ellesson teaches a centralized directory.

In contrast, claim 15, as amended, recites in part, “receiving an event from an application prior to receiving event data from a distributed directory, wherein a first partition and a second partition of the distributed directory are located at first and second physical locations, respectively.” Thus, in claim 15, the word “distributed” modifies the word “directory” such that the directory itself is distributed.

Therefore, since Ellesson teaches a centralized directory, and Applicant claims “a distributed directory, wherein a first partition and a second partition of the distributed directory are located at first and second physical locations, respectively,” Meltzer and Ellesson do not teach each and every limitation of claim 15. For this reason, at least, claim 15 should be allowable.

Furthermore, neither Meltzer nor Ellesson teach or suggest the desirability of the combination of claim 15. Neither patent provides any incentive or motivation supporting the desirability of their combination. Even where references can be combined to produce the claimed invention (which is not the case here), the MPEP in §2143.01 requires a showing of some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to combine the references to establish prima facie obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103. Meltzer limits its teaching to the publishing of documents while Ellesson is directed towards the unrelated field of non transformative synchronization of centralized databases with client nodes. Hence, there is no motivating force that would compel one skilled in the art to combine Meltzer with Ellesson. For this reason, at least, claim 15 should be allowable.

Claim 18

Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being anticipated by Meltzer in view of Elleson. As stated before, Examiner bears the initial burden of supporting any prima facie case of obviousness. Applicant submits that the cited references are defective in establishing a prima facie case of obviousness with respect to claim 15.

Examiner states that Meltzer fails to teach a distributed directory and relies on Elleson at col. 5, line 52 through col. 6, line 3 to supply this element. The cited portion of Elleson recites, in part, “[a] directory server 103 for polling client nodes 105, 107, and 109 to exchange updated data related to volatile data items stored in directory database 309 and/or the client nodes.”

However, the solution disclosed by Elleson, does not involve a distributed directory. While Elleson teaches a directory server, the directory server “acts as a central administration point for network control,” (col. 2, lines 6-7) (emphasis added). For example, Elleson states, “Fig. 1 illustrates a system overview of a network 10 which employs a central administrative directory server for managing the service quality of the network environment, in accordance with the present invention,” (col. 4, lines 30-33) (emphasis added). Clearly, Elleson teaches a centralized directory.

In contrast, claim 18, as amended, recites in part, “a distributed directory, wherein first and second portions of the distributed directory are stored in the first and second memories, respectively.” Thus, in claim 18, the word “distributed” modifies the word “directory” such that the directory itself is distributed.

Therefore, since Elleson teaches a centralized directory, and Applicant claims “a distributed directory, wherein first and second portions of the distributed directory are stored in the first and second memories, respectively,” Meltzer and Elleson do not teach each and every limitation of claim 18. For this reason, at least, claim 18 should be allowable.

Furthermore, neither Meltzer nor Elleson teach or suggest the desirability of the combination of claim 18. Neither patent provides any incentive or motivation supporting the desirability of their combination. Even where references can be combined to produce the claimed invention (which is not the case here), the MPEP in §2143.01

requires a showing of some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to combine the references to establish prima facie obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103. Meltzer limits its teaching to the publishing of documents while Ellesson is directed towards the unrelated field of non transformative synchronization of centralized databases with client nodes. Hence, there is no motivating force that would compel one skilled in the art to combine Meltzer with Ellesson. For this reason, at least, claim 18 should be allowable.

Claims 19-20 and 22 depend from and further limit claim 18 and should be allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 23

Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being anticipated by Meltzer in view of Ellesson. As stated before, Examiner bears the initial burden of supporting any prima facie case of obviousness. Applicant submits that the cited references are defective in establishing a prima facie case of obviousness with respect to claim 23.

Examiner states that Meltzer fails to teach a distributed directory and relies on Ellesson at col. 5, line 52 through col. 6, line 3 to supply this element. The cited portion of Ellesson recites, in part, “[a] directory server 103 for polling client nodes 105, 107, and 109 to exchange updated data related to volatile data items stored in directory database 309 and/or the client nodes.”

However, the solution disclosed by Ellesson, does not involve a distributed directory. While Ellesson teaches a directory server, the directory server “acts as a central administration point for network control,” (col. 2, lines 6-7) (emphasis added). For example, Ellesson states, “Fig. 1 illustrates a system overview of a network 10 which employs a central administrative directory server for managing the service quality of the network environment, in accordance with the present invention,” (col. 4, lines 30-33) (emphasis added). Clearly, Ellesson teaches a centralized directory.

In contrast, claim 23, as amended, recites in part, “a distributed directory, wherein the distributed directory has first and second partitions at first and second physical locations, respectively [and] software for synchronizing the first and second partitions.” Thus, in claim 23, the word “distributed” modifies the word “directory” such

that the directory itself is distributed.

Therefore, since Ellesson teaches a centralized directory, and Applicant claims "a distributed directory, wherein the distributed directory has first and second partitions at first and second physical locations, respectively [and] software for synchronizing the first and second partitions," Meltzer and Ellesson do not teach each and every limitation of claim 7. For this reason, at least, claim 7 should be allowable.

Furthermore, neither Meltzer nor Ellesson teach or suggest the desirability of the combination of claim 23. Neither patent provides any incentive or motivation supporting the desirability of their combination. Even where references can be combined to produce the claimed invention (which is not the case here), the MPEP in §2143.01 requires a showing of some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to combine the references to establish prima facie obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103. Meltzer limits its teaching to the publishing of documents while Ellesson is directed towards the unrelated field of non transformative synchronization of centralized databases with client nodes. Hence, there is no motivating force that would compel one skilled in the art to combine Meltzer with Ellesson. For this reason, at least, claim 23 should be allowable.

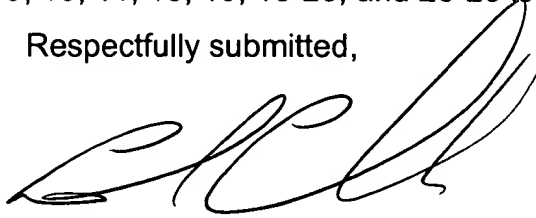
Claims 24-25 depend from and further limit claim 23 and should be allowable for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion

It is clear from all of the foregoing that independent claims 7, 15, 18, and 23 are in condition for allowance. Dependent claims 9, 10, 11, 13, 19-20, 22, and 24-25 depend from and further limit independent claims 7, 15, 18, and 23 and therefore are allowable as well.

Notice of allowance of claims 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 18-20, and 23-25 is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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